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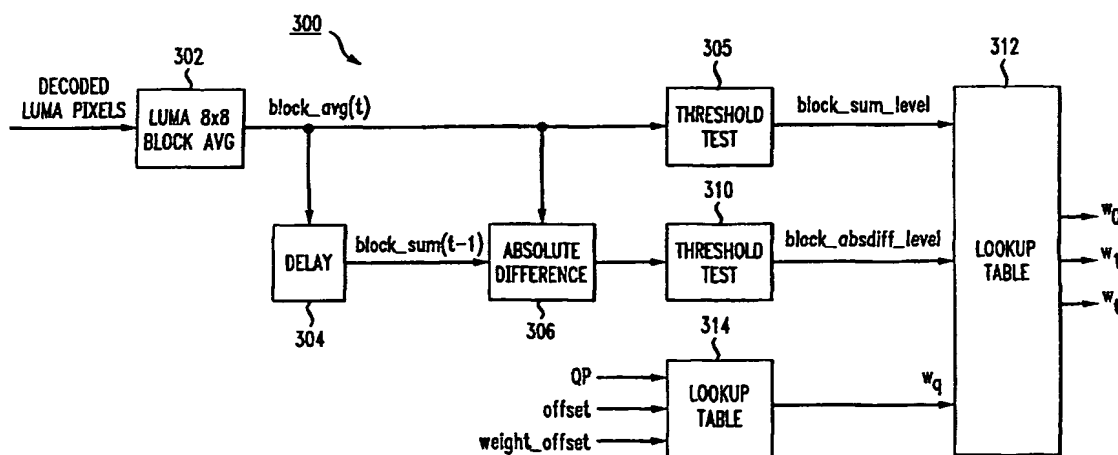
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **THOMSON LICENSING S.A.** [FR/FR]; 46, Quai A. Le Gallo, F-92100 Boulogne-Billancourt (FR).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BOYCE, Jill, Mac Donald** [US/US]; 3 Brandywine Ct., Manalapan, NJ 07726 (US). **GOMILA, Cristina** [ES/US]; 25C Chestnut Court, Princeton, NJ 08540 (US). **LLACH, Joan** [GR/US]; 25C CHESTNUT COURT, Princeton, NJ 08540 (US). **TOURAPIS, Alexandros** [GR/US]; 20212 Heather Drive, West Windson, NJ 08550 (US). **COOPER, Jeffrey, Allen** [US/US]; 11 Toth Lane, Rock Hill, NJ 08540 (US). **YIN, Peng** [CN/US]; 65 Warwick Road, West Windsor, NJ 08540 (US).
- (74) Agents: **TRIPOLI, Joseph, S. et al.**; c/o Thomson Licensing Inc., 2 Independence Way Suite 2, Princeton, New Jersey 08540 (US).
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(54) Title: **TECHNIQUE FOR BIT-ACCURATE COMFORT NOISE ADDITION**



(57) Abstract: The addition of comfort noise to an image serves to hide compression artifacts. To facilitate comfort noise addition, supplemental information accompanying a video image contains at least one parameter that specifies an attribute regarding comfort noise. Typically, the supplemental information includes parameters that function to turn the comfort noise on and off, as well as to indicate the level of noise to add, based on the expected level of compression artifacts.